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Causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa

Letter dated 7 February 2003 from the President of the Economic and Social Council addressed to the President of the General Assembly

I wish to submit to you the report of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Guinea-Bissau, set up by the Economic and Social Council in October 2002. The report (E/2003/8) was submitted to the Council on 15 January 2003. Having considered it, the Council adopted a resolution on 31 January (2003/1) at its organizational session, by which it welcomed the recommendations contained in the report.

As you know, the Council, in its resolution 2002/1, decided on the principle of creating such an Ad Hoc Advisory Group following the adoption of General Assembly resolution 55/217 of 21 December 2000 on the causes of conflicts and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa. In paragraph 7 of its resolution, the Assembly requested the Council to consider "the creation of an ad hoc advisory group on countries emerging from conflict, with a view to assessing their humanitarian and economic needs and elaborating a long-term programme of support for implementation that begins with the integration of relief into development".

The creation of the Group by the Council and the outcome of its work testify to the importance of ensuring interaction between our two bodies. As the Council decided to extend its mandate, the Group will now assess on a continuing basis the implementation of its recommendations, until the substantive session of the Council in July 2003.

I would be grateful if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly.

(*Signed*) Gert **Rosenthal**

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